

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 21, 23, 27-28 and 30 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof.

Please amend Claims 24 and 31 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof, as follows:

1-23 (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) ~~The protein of Claim 21, wherein said protein comprises An~~

~~isolated *Dirofilaria immitis* protein comprising an amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:4.~~

25-30 (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) ~~The composition of Claim 27, wherein said protein comprises~~

~~A composition comprising an excipient and an isolated *Dirofilaria immitis* protein~~

~~comprising an amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:4.~~

32-36 (Canceled).

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IN THE CLAIMS

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Please amend Claims 24 and 31 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof, as follows:

1-23 (Canceled)

1 ~~24.~~ (Currently Amended) ~~The protein of Claim 21, wherein said protein comprises An~~
isolated *Dirofilaria immitis* protein comprising the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:4.

25-30 (Canceled)

2 ~~31.~~ (Currently Amended) ~~The composition of Claim 27, wherein said protein comprises~~
A composition comprising an excipient and an isolated *Dirofilaria immitis* protein
comprising the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:4.

32-36 (Canceled).

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 15, 2004

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